



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Apostle Islands
National Lakeshore

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Apostle Islands News Release

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NPS Announces Meetings for New Apostle Islands Plan

Superintendent Bob Krumenaker announced the National Park Service is starting a new plan for Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. "We are beginning to revise the general management plan, which will guide the park's direction for the next 15-20 years. The first step in this process is seeking public views on how we should manage the park in the future."

The current general management plan was completed in 1989. Since that time much has occurred. In particular, there has been a substantial growth in kayaking in the area. Development issues are very different now than compared to 1989. Management direction needs to be provided for Long Island, which was acquired just before the 1989 general management plan was completed. The plan also needs to address other topics, including the relationship of the park to the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, and the sustainability of facilities, services, and park operations in light of projected park budgets.

"This new general management plan will provide a vision for the park's future, as well guidance on what actions we should take to achieve that vision," said Krumenaker. "We learned during the recently-completed Wilderness Study that our visitors don't want lots of development in the park, but they do want us to maintain what is already there. This plan will help identify how the National Park Service may best protect the park's cultural, natural, and wilderness resources while also providing for visitor enjoyment of the park."

(more)

The National Park Service will be holding seven public open houses this fall to listen to the public on how Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be managed over the next 15 to 20 years. Written comments will also be sought from the public via correspondence and e-mail messages. These comments will help guide National Park Service planners in developing alternative approaches to managing the park's resources, visitors, and facilities. The alternatives will also be based on legal mandates, NPS policies, the park's purpose, significance and mission, and key issues facing the park. Preliminary alternatives should be developed over the next year or so.

"The public will play a key role in the development of the general management plan," said Krumenaker. "We want to communicate, consult, and cooperate with all interested individuals and groups throughout the planning process. I urge everyone to participate during this process and share your vision for this magnificent unit of the National Park System. Your involvement will help guide us and will result in a better vision than we alone could provide."

The public is invited to attend one of series of planning open houses that the park will host in Red Cliff, Bayfield, Odanah, Ashland, and Madison, Wisconsin and in St. Paul and Duluth, Minnesota at the following locations (a brief presentation will begin each meeting):

Monday, October 18 - 2:00 pm-4:00pm
Red Cliff, WI
Bingo Hall at Isle Vista Casino

Monday, October 18 - 6:00 pm-8:00pm
Bayfield, WI
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Visitor Center
415 Washington Avenue

Tuesday, October 19 - 2:00pm-4:00pm
Odanah, WI
Chief Blackbird Center – Conference Room C

Tuesday, October 19 - 6:00pm-8:00pm
Ashland, WI
Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center

Wednesday, October 20 - 6:00pm-8:00pm
Madison, WI
Crowne Plaza Hotel
4402 East Washington Avenue

Thursday, October 21 - 6:00pm-8:00pm
St Paul, Minnesota
Four Points Sheraton Capitol Hotel
400 Hamline Avenue North

(more)

Friday, October 22 - 4:00pm-6:00pm
Duluth, Minnesota
Holiday Inn Downtown
200 West 1st Street

The first in a series of newsletters has also been prepared on the general management plan, including its purpose and schedule. The newsletter is available on the park's website at www.nps.gov/apis/gmp.htm. Copies of the newsletter also can be obtained by writing Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Route 1, Box 4, Bayfield, WI 54814. For additional information about the planning process please check the park's website at www.nps.gov/apis/gmp.htm or contact us via e-mail at apis_comments@nps.gov.

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